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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



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Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It's the start of another academic year and we believe it is going to be a really exciting one! It was so lovely to welcome all the children back after the holidays and to hear all about their summer activities. Once again they have shot up in height - what were you feeding them?!

We were also delighted to welcome new children and staff, including our youngest children who joined us in Reception yesterday. They looked so grown up wearing our school uniform and seemed to take all the change that comes with starting at a Primary school in their stride.

Reception

We had so much fun when we came into school for our morning or afternoon sessions yesterday and today. There was sooo much to do and play with and we've already started to make new friends. We've told our mums and dads that we'd like to come back again from next Monday and can't wait! Thank you to Mrs Bentley, Mrs Farina and all the other staff in Reception who helped make us feel safe and happy.

Year 1

Wow! It is exciting to be in Year 1! We get to play on the artificial turf and the MUGA at break and lunchtime and be with children from other year groups too!

We've been really busy in our classes. We've started to learn how to write in pre-cursive handwriting - starting with the letter 'L'. In Maths we've begun a unit on place value and in Science we're looking at the weather in different seasons. We created a colour wheel in Art, using Primary colours and made basic maps of our class as part of our Geography fieldwork topic. Our overall topic this term is 'Me and my World'. You'll find out much more about this in the topic web that's going to be sent to you today.



Year 2

Can you believe what our topic is this term? It's Castles and Dragons and we're actually going to visit Warwick Castle, in just a couple of weeks! Can you imagine a better way to start a school year?!

We are so excited! As well as learning about our new topic, we discussed our summer holidays in class and then wrote a recount about what we did. It was really interesting learning to proofread and then up level our work, using our purple polishing pens. In Maths we've been learning how to identify the value of a digit in 2 and 3 digit numbers and in PSHE we have been discussing how to cope with our successes and areas that we might struggle with. We also talked about how we can share our worries and our class Tree of kindness.

Year 3

Our first topic this year is 'Fantastic pharaohs' and apparently we are going to learn loads of gory details about mummification, make death masks and different jewellery - brilliant!

This week we have been reading 'How to be a Lion' by Ed Vere and exploring what it means to be unique and different and how we can be a supportive friend. In Maths we've been revising our place value knowledge from Year 2 and we have started Tag-Rugby sessions in PE with Performance Sport. We are really looking forward to learning to play the ukulele this year and having our first lesson next week.

Year 4

We've really enjoyed our first week, getting to know our teachers and starting our new topic, 'Under the Canopy'. We've been exploring the question 'Where are the rainforests?' and used atlases to identify different rainforests and label these on our world maps. We also noted their closeness to the equator and why this is so important to the climate.

In English we've started to explore fables as a genre and enjoyed reading a variety of them and talking about the moral at the end of each one. It was also fun working in groups to orally retell one of Aesop's fables. In Maths we've been learning to round to the nearest 10 and nearest 100, rounding both up and down and in Science we've started a new unit 'Living things and their habitats'. We had fun balancing with and on each other (and Mrs Edwards) in Gymnastics and playing Tag-Rugby in PE on Tuesday.



Year 5

Like all the other year groups, we have a new topic this term and it's entitled 'Invasion'. We're going to be exploring how Britain changed in the time between the Romans and the Normans and why this period of time is sometimes known as the 'Dark Ages'. We're going to be looking for evidence to see if this is a fair description for this time over the coming lessons.

Our guided reading book is 'Beowulf' which is a historical adventure horror story. We read the introduction to it this week and are looking forward to learning more about the characters and story next week. Much like the monks and scribes of Anglo-Saxon Britain, we turned our artistic talents to the task of creating illuminated letters. After exploring the historical context of them, we made use of colour and design to produce our own unique, personalised letter. In Maths we've been developing our place value knowledge of numbers up to 1,000 000 and also explored the use of Roman numerals.

Year 6

We're really excited about our main topic this term. It's the First World War and this week we identified the main characters involved in the event that triggered and started the war, plus which countries made up the central powers and allied forces.

In Art we're going to be developing effective observational skills and practicing different drawing skills and techniques in how to represent observations in graphic form. In Maths we've been focussing on the foundational arithmetic skills that underpin all the maths we cover during year 6 and in Science, as part of our topic on evolution, we've been exploring how physical traits can be passed down from parents to offspring.



Jeans for Genes Day

This will be taking place on Friday 22nd September and children will be able to wear jeans to schools, if they would like to.

If you would like to make a donation, you can do by clicking on the link below

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/the-heights-jeans-for-genes>

The Heights Annual Golf Day

This exciting event will be taking place on Thursday 28th September - please see the attached flyer for more details on how to sign up.

SEND Coffee Morning

This will be taking place on Wednesday 20th September - please see the attached flyer for more details. If you would like to attend please email SencoAM@theheightsprimary.co.uk or Sencotvs@theheightsprimary.co.uk

Brighter Futures for Children

As a parent/carer in Reading Brighter Futures for Children would appreciate it if you could take part in an online survey on early education and local childcare. This is an annual survey that Brighter Futures for Children must carry out to make sure there is sufficient high-quality, flexible and affordable childcare to meet the needs of our local community. To complete the survey, please

visit <https://forms.office.com/e/8D2EEsHa7S> (the survey should take around 10 minutes to complete)

Survey ends Friday 27th October 2023

Twitter

Please follow [@AtHeadteacher](https://twitter.com/AtHeadteacher) for updates!

Please follow [@TheHeightsArts](https://twitter.com/TheHeightsArts) for updates

Dates for the Diary

Start of Autumn Term	4 th September
Year 4 Longridge Q&A	15 th September 3:15pm
Flu Immunisations R - Y6	19 th September
SEND Coffee Morning	20 th September
Jeans for Genes day	22 nd September
Prospective Reception 2024 Parent Open Morning	26 th September
Year 2 Warwick Castle Trip	27 th September
Year 4 Longridge trip	27 th - 29 th September
The Heights Annual Golf Day	28 th September
Year 6 Skernlodge trip	9 th - 13 th October

I hope you have a lovely weekend.



Mrs Edwards